Exchange of newly-born child in Sucheta Kripalani Hospital

858. SHRI MOHINDER SINGH LATHER :
SHRI VIRENDRA VERMA :
SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA :
SHRI N.E. BALRAM :

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item which appeared in the Indian Express dated the 25th June, 1989 regarding exchaage of a newly-born male child with a still-born child in Sucheta Kripalani Hospital, Delhi;

(b) whether Government have made any inquiry into the matter;

(c) if so, what are the details thereof;

(d) what action has been taken by the Government against the hospital staff responsible for exchanging the newly-born male child stating whether the child has been located and restored to his parents;

(e) whether it is a fact that such incidents have become a regular feature in Delhi hospitals; and

(f) if so, what steps are proposed to be taken to check these incidents?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) A preliminary Enquiry has been conducted by Dr. B.M.S. Bedi, Vice Principal, Lady Hardinge Medical College & Associated Hospitals into the complaint of Shri C P Sharma relating to swapping of his baby, but the allegations have not been sub-stantiated. On the complaint of Shri C. P. Sharma to the Police the Crime Branch Delhi Police have also registered a case for investigation.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Question does not arise.

Ban on import of Cineraria Maritima Succus

859. SHRI RAMSINH RATHWA :
KUMARI SAYEEDA KHATUN :

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Homoeopathic Advisory Committee to Government of India has made any recommendation to ban the import of Cineraria Maritima Succus, a widely used Homoeopathic eye drop being imported from West Germany; if so, the reasons given by the said committee;

(b) whether Homoeopathic sub-Committee of the Drug Technical Advisory Board has been consulted in the matter;

(c) whether any statutory samples of Cineraria Maritima Succus have failed in any test to warrant such decision; and

(d) what is Government's reaction in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM): (a) An extract of the minutes of the Advisory Committee on Homoeopathy relating to Cineraria Maritima Succus is given in the statement. (*See* below).

(b) No, Sir.

(c) The Homeopathic Pharmacopoeia Laboratory, Ghaziabad had

in recent past received on two occasions samples of imported Cineraria Maritima Succus manufactured by M/s. Willmar Schwabe of West Germany form the Drugs Inspector of Delhi Administration for test/analysis in Form 18 of Drugs and Cosmetics rules, 1945. Reports were issued in Form 13 as required under the Drugs Rules. Both these samples did not pass the pharmacopoeial requirements or the standards prescribed under the Drugs Act and as such they had failed.

(d) The recommendation of the Committee is under consideration of the Government.

Statement

'Members were informed that standards for Cineraria Maritima Succus have been prescribed in Volume V of the Homoeopathic Pharmacopoeia of India. As per II schedule to the Drugs and Cosmetics Act and Rules, the standards prescribed in the Homoeopathic Pharmacopoeia of India are applicable to the same products marketed in the country, whether local or imported.

Hence, the Committee recommended that there should not be any laxity in applying the standards already prescribed in various volumes of the Homeopatahic Pharmacopoeia of India as separate monographs to the products being marketed in the country—including imported items and to take appropriate action to stop marketing of those products which are not in conformity with standards of Homoeopathic Pharmacopoeia of India.'

Quality of Iodised Salt

860. SHRI RAM AWADHESH SINGH : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that iodised salt in the market is not of the prescribed quality;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Iodine is lost by 90 per cent if salt is kept for 9 months as reported in Times of India dated 20th June, 1989;

(c) whether stamping of date of manufacture would be made mandatory; and

(d) how many such samples were tested in the country during 1987-88 and 1988-89 and with what results and what corrective steps have been taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM): (a) No. Most of the samples of iodised salt drawn from market in different parts of the country conform to the requirement as prescribed under Prevention of Food Adulteration Act.

(d) The Studies conducted by the Central Salt & Marine Chemicals Research Institute, Bhavnagar showed average loss of about 20 to 30 per cent of iodine during the first three months of storage only and thereafter for nine months period there is no further loss of iodine, provided the storage conditions are satisfactory.

(c) As per the provision of PFA Act, it is obligatory on the part of iodised salt manufacturers to indicate the month and year of manufacture on the bags/packages.

(d) Around 84% of the iodised salt samples tested at various laboratories of the salt Deptt. during 1988 were found to conform to the prescribed specifications.